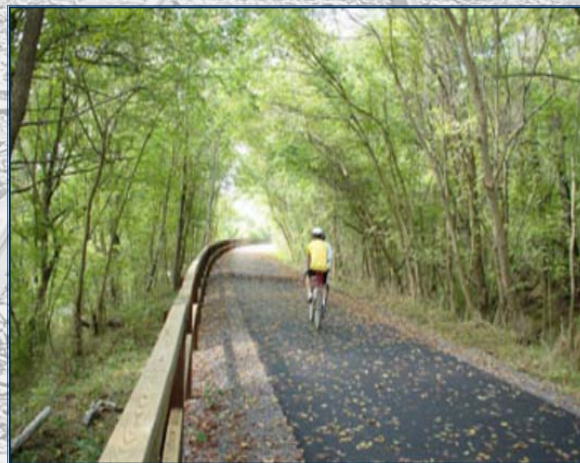


WELCOME

Georgetown – Lewes, Rail / Trail Study

August 14th & 15th, 2006 - Public Workshop

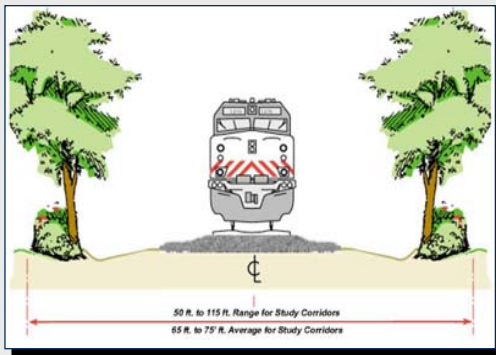


Delaware Department
of Transportation

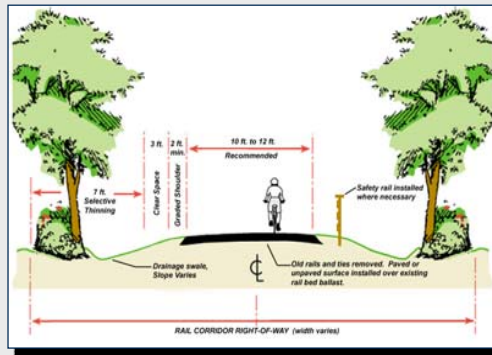
JMT
JOHNSON, MURPHY & THOMPSON
Engineering A Brighter Future

Rail-Trail Facility Types

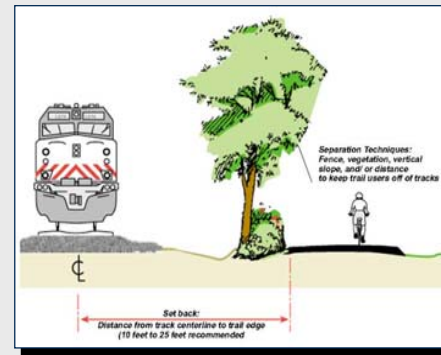
Rails-to-Trails (RTT) are public multi-use trail systems that are developed from the conversion of inactive and abandoned rail corridors.



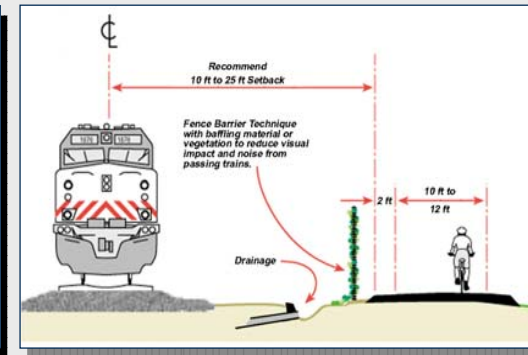
RAIL-to-TRAIL
Cross Section



Rails-with-Trails (RWT) are public multi-use trail systems that are developed adjacent to active railroad lines and share the same right-of-way corridor. All successful RWT facilities are separated from active rail lines with a barrier (grade separation, vegetation, drainage ditches or fencing). Barriers are selected based on the type, frequency, and speed of the train using the line.



RAIL-with-TRAIL
Cross Section



Why Consider Rail / Trails?

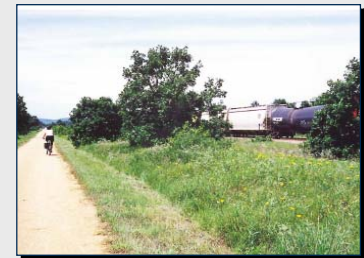
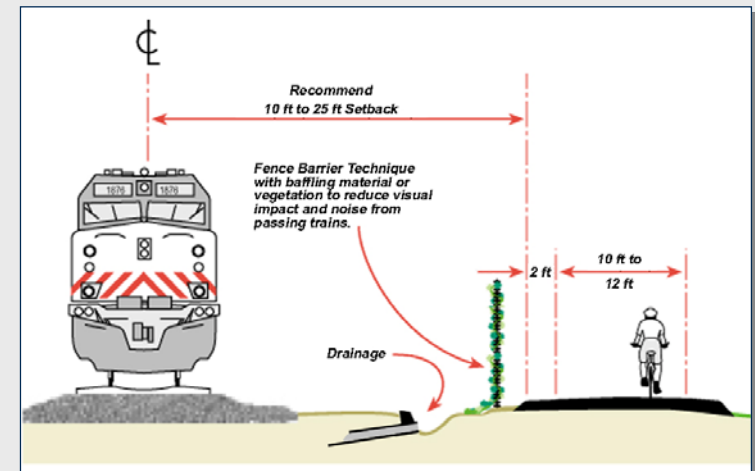
- **Multi-use trails provide safe recreational opportunities for communities**
- **Proven to be a wise economic investment for adjacent communities**
- **Quality of life associated with trail has positive effect on neighborhood marketability and property values**
- **Rails with trails maintain rail service in corridor**

Rails-with-Trails: Safety & Design Consideration

Safety concerns take top priority when formulating design criteria for RWT facilities.

Design considerations include:

1. Separation from rail tracks
2. Slopes adjacent to trail
3. Alignment & sight distance
4. Trail width
5. Surface material
6. ADA access
7. Drainage
8. Structures
9. Need for additional Right-of-Way



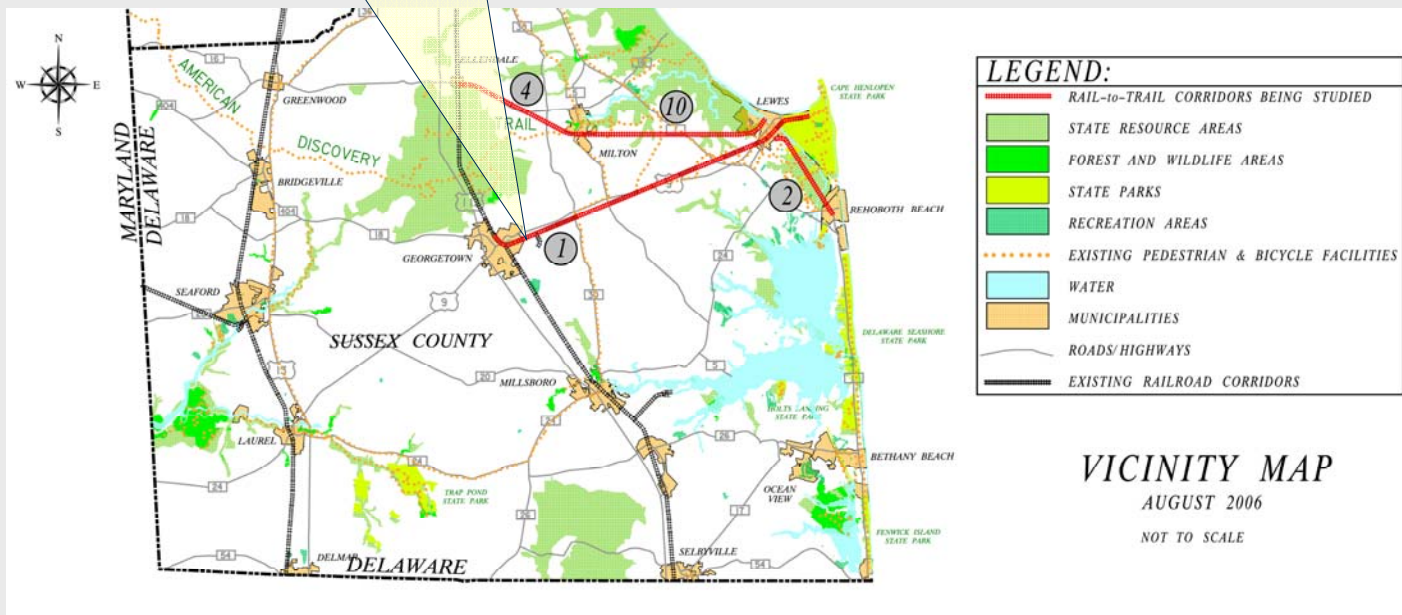
Minimum RWT setback depends on train speed, frequency and other specific situations.

Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Overview

Study limits:	Georgetown Train Station to Cape Henlopen State Park
Length:	16.7 miles
Operators:	Delaware Coast Line Railroad (DCLR)
Freight Customers:	Mountaire Poultry/Grain Facility SPI/Pharma (Barcroft)
Current Frequency:	1 - 2 trains per week 2 - 5 cars per train

Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Vicinity Map

① Georgetown-Lewes (16.7 mi)



Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Goals & Objectives

GOALS:

- 1. Evaluate the feasibility of a RTT or RWT multi-use facility.**
- 2. Create partnership with all constituents.**
- 3. Be consistent with the 2004 Delaware Strategies for State Policies and Spending and the Livable Delaware Initiatives.**

OBJECTIVES:

- 1. Identify opportunities and constraints associated with the RTT / RWT.**
- 2. Identify the needs of user groups and ‘neighbors’.**
- 3. Provide recommendations for trail implementation and management.**
- 4. Establish specific design criteria and standards**
- 5. Establish operational, maintenance, and safety guidelines.**

Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Alternatives Studied

ALTERNATIVE 1:

Total conversion of the existing active rail corridor to a RTT facility.

ALTERNATIVE 2:

Total conversion of the existing active rail corridor to a RWT facility.

ALTERNATIVE 3:

Conversion of the existing rail corridor to a RWT from Georgetown to Gravel Hill and a RTT from Gravel Hill to Lewes (Cape Henlopen Park).

Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Trail Head Elements & Amenities

The success of the rail / trail facility depends not only on the trail conditions but also the accessibility and variety of trail amenities.



Parking lot at Trail Head



Informational signage
and trash bag dispenser



Western Maryland Rail-
Trail, Hancock, MD



Monton Trail, Indianapolis, ID



Collapsible bollards provide
restricted access to Trail Head



Trail entrance signage



Heritage Rail-Trail County
Park, York, PA



Luzerne County Rail Trail,
Wilkes Barre, PA

**Junction & Breakwater Facility
Rehoboth Beach, DE**

Other RTT & RWT Facilities

Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Trail Design Considerations

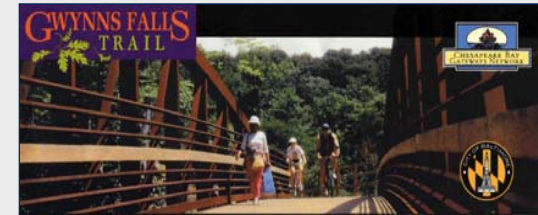
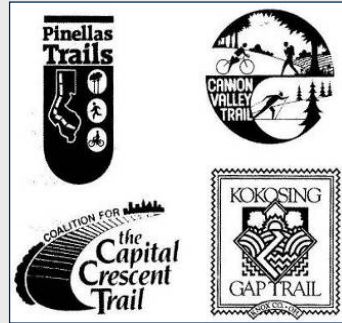
Trail-roadway crossing improvements



Junction Breakwater RTT – Rehoboth Beach, DE

Western Maryland RTT – Hancock, MD

Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Trail Branding



**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE FOR
THE GEORGETOWN - LEWES TRAIL ?**

Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities:

- **Provide connection to Cape Henlopen State Park and Rehoboth Beach**
- **Provide recreational opportunities for 14 new housing developments**
- **Provide connections to the Delmarva Christian HS, Lewes MS, Richard Shields ES, Cape Henlopen HS, and the Lewes Library**
- **Intersects with the American Discovery Trail, Southern Delaware Heritage Trail, Delaware Bicycle Route 1, and regional bicycle routes**
- **SR 5 provides connection to Ellendale - Milton RTT facility**
- **Low speed, low frequency, freight transport**
- **Minimal environmental impacts**

Constraints:

- **Trail crossing at US 9 requires further study**
- **Corridor crosses nine streams including the Lewes & Rehoboth Canal**
- **Incorporating trail on the US 9 bridge over the Lewes & Rehoboth Canal**



Georgetown-Lewes Rail / Trail Study: Work to be Completed

- **Compile and evaluate community / public input**
- **Drainage and stormwater management studies**
- **Alignment and trail crossing studies**
- **Parking and trail head amenities investigations**
- **Right-of-Way investigations**

THANK YOU

**Your input is very important to us and your community.
Please remember to fill out a comment card.**